

REMARKS

By this paper, claims 1, 3, 20, 24, 26 and 27 have been amended and claims 7 and 25 have been canceled. Claims 1-6, 8-24 and 26-27 remain pending.

In the final Office action dated March 8, 2004, claims 1-5, 14-19, 24, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Leonhardt et al. (U.S. 5,713,917). Claims 7, 20, 21, 23, 25 and 26 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 7 and claim 24 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 25. Additionally, claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form and claim 27 has been rewritten to include the subject matter of claim 7. As such, it is believed that each of the pending claims now recite patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be reconsidered, the claims allowed and the application passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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